

It is believed that no fee is required with this submission. However, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1868.

Amendment

In the Claims

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1. (Three times amended) A method for modifying steroid production in a mammal in need of treatment by alteration of reproductive hormone levels comprising administering a compound directly inhibiting SR-BI function or expression or a compound selectively increasing expression of SR-BI thereby directly resulting in the selective [altering] alteration of the transfer of cholesterol or cholesteryl ester from high density lipoprotein or other lipoproteins by specifically altering expression of or binding to cholesterol or cholesteryl ester of SR-BI to steroidogenic tissues producing reproductive hormones, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of SR-BI cDNA, SR-BI anti-sense nucleic acids, SR-BI antibodies, and SR-BI receptor binding small molecules or proteins.

Remarks

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 1 was amended to more clearly define what applicants consider to be their invention. Support for the amendments made to claim 1 can be found, for example on page 55, Example 8 (inhibition of steroid production by antibodies raised to the extracellular domain of SR-BI), page 24, lines 4-26 and page 11, lines 15-17 (receptor binding proteins and small molecules), page 21, lines 8-24 (antisense molecules),